



PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

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Office of Local and Rural Health

Roderick L. Bremby, Secretary

Kathleen Sebelius, Governor



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BROWN COUNTY RECEIVES GRANT FUNDING FOR TOBACCO USE PREVENTION PROGRAM

Submitted by DeAnna Chilcoat, LBSW

NEK Multi-County Health Department

Tobacco Use Prevention Program Coordinator



Pictured from left to right: DeAnna Chilcoat, LBSW, NEK Tobacco Grant Coordinator, Pat Campbell, Tobacco Grant Adm. Assistant, Mike Pruner, RN, MPH, NEK Multi-County Health Department Administrator, Jenna Hunter, KDHE Outreach Coordinator, Becky Tuttle, KDHE Outreach Coordinator, Quitline Manager.

Brown County's new Tobacco Use Prevention Program is the result of a \$125,000 state grant to the Northeast Kansas Multi-County Health Department. The grant is to fund tobacco programs in each of the six counties in which the health agency operates. DeAnna Chilcoat, LBSW, was hired in June to coordinate the grant. The goal of the tobacco program, Chilcoat said, "is to reduce tobacco use and the resulting disease, disability and death. We also want to build a coalition to promote tobacco use prevention in Brown county." Fifteen participants were present at the initial meeting on Aug. 3 in Hiawatha. Participants included community members and different local agencies. In Feb. 2005 four

Hiawatha Middle School students formally proposed a ban on smoking in public places in Hiawatha. The proposal was rejected by city commissioners. The anti-smoking effort is particularly important in the light of the Surgeon General's June report, estimating that a billion people will die this century from smoking-related diseases. The American Cancer Society estimates that second hand smoke alone causes up to 48,000 deaths a year. Chilcoat states they plan to form a Brown County coalition that would address community health issues. The Tobacco Use Prevention Program sent three local youth to the Tobacco Use Prevention Youth Retreat in Junction City this summer. The three-day retreat taught the young volunteers about "tobacco use 101," leadership skills and how to implement policy change in their schools and community. The program also sponsored a workshop titled "Treating Tobacco Use During Pregnancy and Beyond" at the Fisher Center in Hiawatha on Sept. 11.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

BREAST CANCER



HOME HEALTH ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

*submitted by Sherry Houston, LBSW, Administrator
Harper County Health Department/Harper County Home Health Agency*

Heather Struble, Harper County Health Department, Anthony, received the Home Care Administrator Honoree of the Year Award at the Kansas Home Care Association conference in Wichita on Sept. 20. Heather is the home health coordinator/clerk/assistant administrator for in-home services at the health department. Heather has worked at the agency for over 13 years in the clerk/coordinator position and took on the role of assistant administrator for in-home services two years ago. She coordinates patient care, schedules visits from intake to discharge, and maintains databases for patient care, billing and agency reports. She is extremely knowledgeable about home care services, finances, staff and management. Struble displays a friendly smile and her telephone personality is an asset to the agency. Heather was nominated for Home Care Administrator of the Year for her outstanding role in maintaining this valuable resource in the community through staff turnovers, changes in agency administration, and the ever changing home health arena. Heather's commitment and dedication are an inspiration to the entire health department staff.



WELCOME TO AMISH COUNTRY!



*Written by Alan Sharp
KDHE Southeast District Office*

I come from a 3rd generation farm background, and even I can't begin to comprehend what the Schwartz farm families have had to plan, endure, pack, haul, tear down, rebuild, barter, store, ship, transfer, separate, buy, sell and sacrifice.

Sounds like a monumental task? Well, yes it is. Try moving your entire farming/trade business to another state without a telephone, cell phone, car, truck, tractor, electricity, computer or Internet. This was a difficult move; 187 miles from

Seymour, MO to the Neosho-Labette KS county line; twenty-two families in varying stages of transfer between Missouri and Kansas.

Trying to maintain normal family functions; such as birthdays, weddings, church attendance and negotiating the purchase of a new farm in a different state and selling the old farm was a tremendous balancing act.

As you can imagine, this has been a monumental task for the Schwartz families to accomplish. The Schwartz's first contacted KDHE in May 2005. At that time they had many questions about locating to different areas of southeast Kansas. Most of their questions were about finding farms that could provide all their needs, including water. The family also requested information regarding county and state regulations that might involve their farms (very proactive, I might add).

Finally, after many trips to Kansas, the Schwartz's found an area near the Neosho-Labette county line to purchase blocks of land to locate their planned farms.

Meanwhile, back at the office, a meeting was arranged with Rich Basore (KDHE Watershed field coordinator), Warren Bell (KSU Watershed Specialist), the Neosho and Labette County sanitarians, Schwartz family representatives, and myself, Alan Sharp (SED CAFO Technician). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss how to locate houses and plan small livestock operations to not represent significant pollution potential to state waters. The Schwartz's were concerned about how state regulations would impact their farms. This meeting also solidified a consistent message from regulatory agencies to the Schwartz family.

The Schwartz family was given copies of applicable regulations concerning household wastes from the county and livestock wastes from the state. Family representatives agreed to contact the appropriate agencies for site location assistance, and to view plans for new construction to ensure they would meet regulations.

To date, the Schwartz family has contacted SED office before any livestock buildings are constructed. Their goal is to manage all accumulated livestock waste in a manner that will not require certification or permitting from the state. Essentially, they have designed and located all construction to pass our Significant Pollution Potential (SPP) form.

During a recent tour of their operations, it was evident the families are fully occupied with construction of homes, barns, outbuildings and fences. Temporary confinement pens are in use until the appropriate buildings are completed and pasture areas are developed. SED plans to complete an SPP for all livestock confinement sites when they are completed.

Services provided by KDHE Southeast District Office:

- Local water supply resources information
- State and county applicable regulations
- Arranged meeting with producers and KDA milk inspector
- Worked with counties on providing protective road signage
- Technical assistance in locating livestock building sites
- Technical assistance with livestock building design

Planned production on these farms may include:

- Beef production, all phases
- Swine production, all phases
- Turkey and poultry production
- Dog kennels
- Crop production, to be used to sustain livestock operations
- Gardening, cabinetry, furniture, woodworking, carpentry

When an entourage of KDHE personnel from Topeka and Chanute recently toured the Chris E. A. Schwartz farm, Mr. Schwartz and his extended family graciously answered questions about their operation. The highlight of the tour was the homemade apple pie Mrs. Schwartz provided.

PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERS RECOMMEND VOLUNTARY NATIONAL ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

A first-of-its-kind recommended model for a voluntary national public health accreditation program was released on Sept. 22 from the Steering Committee of the Exploring Accreditation project. In releasing the model, the committee of state, local and federal public health practice leaders contends that it is both desirable and feasible to develop the program and proposes steps for implementation.

The Exploring Accreditation project, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, began in August 2005 with the goal of answering how a voluntary national accreditation program should be structured and whether such a program is viable. A 25-member Steering Committee of leaders from public health practice representing the local, state and federal levels was established to explore these questions. The Committee developed a proposed accreditation model, vetted that model with

the public health field, revised the model to reflect public comment received, and reached consensus that a voluntary national accreditation program is desirable and feasible. The final recommendations and names of Steering Committee members are available at www.exploringaccreditation.org.

"This is a historic day for public health in America," said Kaye Bender, Steering Committee Chair and Dean of the School of Nursing at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. "The Steering Committee has recommended the framework for an accreditation program designed to improve health department performance and accountability and build greater public trust in the public health field."

The Steering Committee's decisions were informed by recommendations from four workgroups - governance and implementation, standards development, finance and incentives, and research and evaluation - and valuable public comment gathered from public health practitioners and stakeholders via nationwide public forums, surveys, and online feedback.

In its final recommendations, the Exploring Accreditation Steering Committee recommends that:

1. A new non-profit organization be established to oversee the voluntary accreditation of state, territorial, tribal and local public health departments;
2. Accreditation standards be developed that promote continuous quality improvement, the pursuit of excellence, and accountability for the public's health;
3. The new program complement state-based efforts to establish performance standards for health departments;
4. Initial financing for the development and operation of the program come from interested grant-makers, government agencies, and organizations of state and local health departments. Over time, the program should be funded through revenues from application fees and other sources as well.

Additional recommendations address governance of the new program, applicant eligibility, the accreditation assessment process, cost containment, program incentives, evaluation and implementation.

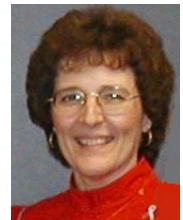
The Steering Committee's final recommendations have been submitted to the executive directors of the American Public Health Association, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, National Association of County and City Health Officials, and National Association of Local Boards of Health, who Serve as the Planning Committee and provide executive oversight to the Exploring Accreditation project. The Planning Committee will share the final recommendations with their organizations to determine next steps.

A full report on the Exploring Accreditation project will be released later this fall. It will include the final recommendations, a description of a business case for the accreditation program, a research agenda to further support the success of a voluntary national accreditation program, and a full summary of public comment. The full report will be posted online at www.exploringaccreditation.org.

WHAT'S NEW

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE SPECIALIST PUBLISHES ARTICLE

Debbie Whitmer, BSN, ARNP, EMT is a public health nurse specialist for KDHE, Office of Local and Rural Health. Debbie has published an article on "Social Networks and Best Practices in Public Health: The Example of Regional Billing Groups" for the journal Public Health Nursing. Debbie's article will appear in the journal's last edition of 2006. Whitmer was instrumental in forming six regional billing workshop groups across the state to assist the local health department clerks with their billing needs. The billing workshops are thriving and have been very beneficial in resolving reimbursement issues.



WATSON LEAVES KDHE

*by Doug Farmer
Deputy Secretary, KDHE*



Sharon Watson, KDHE communications director, has accepted the position of public affairs director for the Kansas Adjutant General's Department/Department of Emergency Management. Sharon has served the agency for more than five years, most recently as director of the office of communications and previously as public information director. She has skillfully carried out KDHE external and internal communications and has worked closely with media throughout the state on important issues such as West Nile Virus, smallpox vaccinations, flu vaccine shortages, as well as landfill controversies, environmental remediation, and laboratory testing issues. Sept. 29 was her last day at KDHE. Sharon has been an invaluable employee, and her dedication and professionalism will be greatly missed.

KANSAS STATE FAIR

Nurses from the Office of Local and Rural Health and various local health departments in Kansas took blood pressures at the Governor's Healthy Kansas Booth at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson. Debbie Whitmer, KDHE public health nurse specialist, is seen in this picture, taken on Sept. 11. Approximately 175 blood pressures were taken on this particular day.

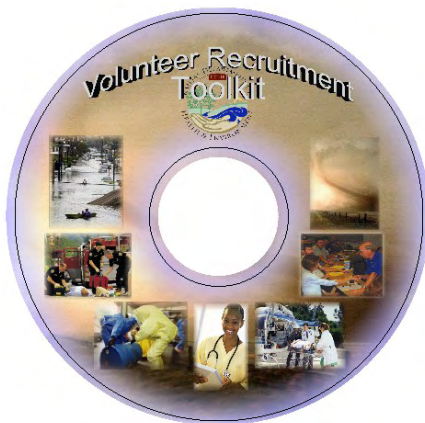


Ginny Dowell, RN, KDHE TB nurse consultant, speaks at the NE Regional Public Health meeting on Sept. 14. Local health department administrators and staff attended the quarterly meeting and were informed of updates pertaining to various KDHE programs.

NE REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH MEETING



VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT TOOLKIT



On Aug. 31 every local health department was sent a copy of the Volunteer Recruitment Toolkit. Each health department received the toolkit on CD along with address labels for health care professionals in their county. This toolkit was developed to assist local health departments recruit, train and manage volunteers. In the volunteer recruitment toolkit introduction letter, Dr. Rodenberg, KDHE Division of Health Director, states, "We know that the key to our ability to respond to any large public health emergency is the community volunteers. We are fortunate to live in a country that has such strong volunteer traditions. It has been shown time and time again that when we need them, they will come. A concentrated effort was made to include some of the best practices from across the state in this toolkit. It is clear that many areas have done some very effective work with their volunteer organizations and we know we can all learn from their successes."

If you have questions about the toolkit or need an additional copy, please call 785-296-1200.

40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Harper County Health Department/Harper County Home Health Agency held a 40th Anniversary Celebration at the agency on Monday, September 18. Advisory Board Members, Jon Anderson, KDHE, and current employees honored the employees who originally started the agency during a luncheon, followed by a reception for the community in the afternoon. Grace Gates, worked with the County Commissioners to open the Harper County Home Health Agency in 1966. Public health services were added the following year. The original employees included: Grace Gates, Virginia Downing, Betty Carmichael and Shirley Stranathan. Grace Gates continues to serve the agency through the advisory board. Virginia Downing started as an immunization clerk, Home Health Aide (HHA), then obtained her RN and has served as an interim director for the agency in the past. She currently provides quality assurance for the Home Health Agency. Betty Carmichael was the first clerk and Shirley Stranathan was the first HHA. Dr. Antrim was the first medical director. The agency enjoyed having an opportunity to honor these individuals and celebrate their lasting legacy to community service in Harper County.



From left to right: Lana Nelson, former HHA; Shirley Stranathan, former HHA; Virginia Downing, former Clerk, HHA, RN; Rita Bonetti, former Administrator; Frieda Schmidt, former Administrator, ARNP; Grace Gates, former Administrator, KDHE employee (Currently serves on the Advisory Board); and Dr. Antrim, former Medical Director.

GRADUATING CLASS OF 2006



The Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute (KPHLI) is pleased to announce the graduation of its third class of scholars. These 27 public health leaders from around the state have completed a year-long, competency-based training program, the culmination of which is the presentation of an applied public health capstone project. Scholars presented their capstones and graduated from the KPHLI in a ceremony prior to the Kansas Public Health Association's conference on

September 26. Upon graduation, they were welcomed into the Kansas Public Health Leadership Academy for KPHLI Fellows.

The Cycle IV scholars will be welcomed into the KPHLI through an orientation session on Sept. 26. The first Cycle IV training session will take place in Oct.

THE KANSAS IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY, KSWEBIZ, CONTINUES TO MOVE ALONG!

*Submitted by Deborah Warren, Program Analyst, KIIS Coordinator
KDHE Immunization Program*



The system has been deployed to 88 private and public health vaccination providers. There are now 375 active end users on KSWebIZ which currently is maintaining information on 656,188 patients and 2,897,495 vaccinations. Forty-two local health departments and 46 private providers are online and accessing KSWebIZ directly.

We continue to work on the second phase of the KSWebIZ project on ways to exchange data between provider systems and the registry 'behind the scenes.' This process, usually involving an interface, allows providers to continue to use their respective systems yet take advantage of shared immunization data. They will also provide information resulting in building records that are the most up-to-date and complete. Having earlier designed the KSWebIZ HL7 interface (NOTE: HL7 is a specification for a health data-interchange standard

designed to facilitate the transfer of health data resident on different and disparate computer systems in a health care setting.), we are now working with Riley and Finney counties to utilize this messaging to exchange immunization information between QS (the practice management system implemented by these two counties) and the registry.

The registry team met with representative school nurses at the Kansas School Nurse Conference in July. We have begun to capture input from these end-users which will be used to design and implement the system customizations required by school nurses. We have designated nine of these users to comprise an advisory committee. Our initial focus has been to ensure that measures have been taken so that school nurses can share immunization data and remain in compliance with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Next month we will have our first conference call with the members of this committee to begin developing the system changes.

We continue to work closely with health plans to design a two-way interface that will allow health plans to request immunization information on a list of their *specific health plan patients* and will also send updated information back to the registry on these identified individuals. It is anticipated that this interface will be completed by the end of the first quarter in 2007.

The KDHE IT department is working closely with Medicaid to develop an HL7 message exchange between the MMIS system and KSWebIZ. Once again using the HL7 format allows us to maintain a standard of exchanging information that is much easier to sustain. Once implemented, the MMIS data will be extracted into the registry and will significantly increase the population of KSWebIZ to better serve providers using the system.

Mike Parsons and Sue Bowden, both registry trainers, have been out and about offering demonstrations of the KSWebIZ system to private provider offices. With every outing we capture yet another enthusiastic physician to train and enroll on the system.

Sue Bowden and Niki Lambrecht continue to work with KSWebIZ users to assist them in tracking and reconciling their physical inventory with KSWebIZ inventory totals. Sue offers monthly calls. Please feel free to contact us for more information on the schedule of these calls.

All in all, we are progressing at a pace beyond what was anticipated. Hope to see you on the system soon!

THE BEST FRIENDS APPROACH TO ALZHEIMER'S CARE CREATING QUALITY PROGRAMS FOR PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA



Alzheimer's Association Heart of America Chapter presents the Sixth Annual Defining Hope Conference on Wednesday, Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. – 2:45 p.m. at the Kansas History Museum, 6425 SW 6th Ave.,

Topeka. The keynote speaker is David A. Troxel, MPH, co-author of the internationally recognized book "Best Friends Approach to Alzheimer's Care."

David Troxel is an internationally known author, speaker and consultant in the field of Alzheimer's disease and long-term care. He has co-authored four influential books. His other areas of work include culture change, developing quality dementia care programs, program assessment, staff development and training and leadership development.

"The Best Friends Approach to Alzheimer's Care" has been praised for its common sense, life-affirming approach to dementia. This workshop features one of the model's creators in a day-long exploration of how adult day centers, long-term care facilities, in-home programs and family caregivers can use the Best Friends approach to improve the lives of persons with dementia. Highlights include an update on dementia and research, steps to strengthen staff training, and activity programs and tips to managing challenging behaviors. Participants will feel energized when they leave with a personal action plan to implement at their workplace or family setting.

Registration includes: conference and lunch for \$40 or \$50 for 4.5 CEUs or Certificate of Attendance. Registration deadline is Oct. 24. Contact 785-234-2523 or email karen.johnson@alz.org for registration information.

BARBER COUNTY PARTICIPATES IN STATEWIDE 'KANSAS HEAT' EXERCISE

*Submitted by Heather Henke, RN, Administrator
Barber County Health Department*

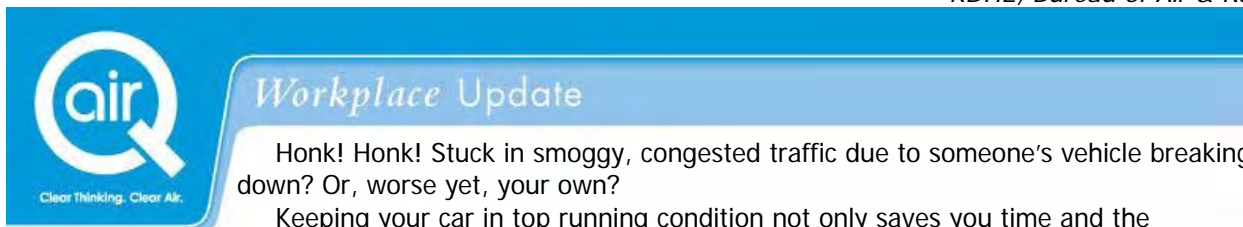
On Aug. 31 Barber County participated in a statewide emergency preparedness exercise sponsored by the KDHE's Center for Public Health Preparedness (CPHP) called Kansas HEAT. The exercise involved county health, hospital, EMS, law enforcement, emergency management, and other county entities as well as emergency response volunteers from the community.

During the exercise, the Barber County Community Health Department and partners distributed "mock" medication from a Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) training module. In a real crisis, the SNS would be dispatched by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and would contain medical supplies to help states deal with mass medical emergencies. The Barber County Community Health Department and partners would redistribute SNS material, including medications and hospital supplies, to assist local health agencies in dealing with an overwhelming number of patients during a bio-terrorism attack or widespread disease outbreak, such as pandemic influenza.

The Barber County Community Health Department, Emergency Management, and other partners have been working together on emergency planning and preparedness issues. This exercise was a perfect way to fine tune some of our plans for distributing medications or providing mass care. The exercise tested emergency plans and standard operating guides. The health department opened a full-scale mass dispensing clinic or POD. Partnering with law enforcement, hospital and volunteers, we simulated a clinic in which emergency preparedness information and items to start a home emergency kit were distributed along with the mock SNS. "The social equity that is reinforced by the community coming together to assure we are more prepared today than yesterday and more tomorrow than today is a valuable asset," says Heather Henke, RN, Administrator.

AIR QUALITY AT HOME AND ON THE ROAD

*Submitted by Doug Watson
KDHE, Bureau of Air & Radiation*



Keeping your car in top running condition not only saves you time and the embarrassment of breakdowns, but it also saves you gasoline and money. And, it helps protect air quality!

Poorly maintained vehicles generate far more air pollution than those that are well maintained. They can produce up to 20 percent more volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and 10 percent more nitrous oxides (NOx) — the main ingredients in ground-level ozone. Vehicles in very poor shape may release as much as 100 times more pollution.

Add up your savings while performing these routine steps:

- Keeping tires properly inflated can improve your gas mileage by 3 percent, or about 18 gallons of gas per year for the average driver.
- Replacing a clogged air filter can improve your gas mileage by 10 percent, or about 55 gallons per year. Be sure to check all filters (oil, gas, and air) regularly and make sure filters are in good condition.
- Have regular tune-ups. This will save you an average of 4 percent, or about 23 gallons per year.
- Replacing a worn gas cap can save you 30 gallons per year.
- Check all fluids regularly and change fluids according to your owner's manual. Simply using the correct weight of oil can save you 1-2 percent, or nine gallons per year.
- Be sure your mechanic understands modern emission control systems.
- Never ignore a "check engine" or other warning light.

Routine maintenance will make your drive smoother and the roads safer. Keeping your car healthy will help keep the air healthy, too!

CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS (CPHP) LIBRARY

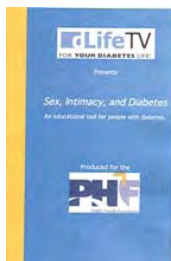
*Submitted by Mike Heideman
Communications Design Specialist, KDHE*

"Managing the Risk: - 2005 Kansas Commission on Emergency Planning and Response Annual Report" has been added to the Kansas Center for Public Health Preparedness Library. The library is designed to serve as a research, training and education resource for local agencies.

The CPHP library presently contains more than 250 print, video and multimedia resources on a range of preparedness and response topics. Examples include weapons of mass destruction (WMD) response, disaster mental health, Strategic National Stockpile, safety and security for schools and businesses, and clinical training materials.

All items that are checked out of the library should be returned within 30 calendar days, unless special arrangements are made in advance. Clicking on the "Information" link on the PHIX home page and then select "BT Library" for more information about the library.

Please contact Mike Heideman at (785) 296-4363 or mheidema@kdhe.state.ks.us if you would like to checkout an item or if you have questions about the library.



SEX, INTIMACY AND DIABETES

New through the Public Health Foundation is a much-needed program that openly addresses relationship and physical intimacy issues for individuals with diabetes and their partners. This 30-minute DVD, developed by dLife, provides a brilliant mix of advice from the lay person and professional. It is an excellent tool for diabetes educators, physicians and physician assistants, nurses and nurse practitioners, and others who manage and treat people with diabetes to use to educate and communicate with patients.

Item No. DLF-001 Price: \$30 + shipping fees. Please call toll free (877) 252-1200 or order online at <http://bookstore.phf.org/>.

KS-TRAIN TIPS

For technical assistance with KS-TRAIN click on TRAIN or call 785-296-5666 Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Live Events Posted on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org> (not all courses/dates/sessions that are posted on KS-TRAIN are listed below)

To access and register for these trainings:

- Open a new web browser and enter <http://ks.train.org>
- Log into your TRAIN account
- On this page, click the title of the course in which you would like to enroll.
- The link will take you to the course page in TRAIN. Click the "Refresh" button and then proceed with course registration.



[Healthy Indoor Environments Conference, 3rd Annual 2006](#), Oct.5-6, KCKS, [Complete Brochure!](#)

[Healthy Start Home Visitor: Fall Training](#), Multiple dates/sites, Oct.-Dec.

[WMD: ICS 100 Incident Command](#), Oct. 5, Lawrence; Oct. 31, Topeka (Shawnee Co. and partners)

[KDHE/HazMed: Medical Management of the Contaminated Pt, Re-Certification Course](#),

One Day, Oct. 5, Phillipsburg; Oct. 13, Wichita; Nov. 1, Holton; Dec. 15, Garden City

[KDHE: Medical Management of the Contaminated Pt](#), Oct. 11-12, Wichita; Oct. 30-31, Burlington; Dec. 13-14, Garden City

[2006 All-Hazards Behavioral Health Symposium](#), Oct. 17-18, Salina

[WMD: Emergency Medical Operations and Planning](#), Oct. 24-26, Wichita; Nov. 3-5, Oberlin

[WMD: Public Safety Sampling Techniques and Guidelines](#), Oct. 24-26, Wichita

[Home Visitation Training](#), Oct. 26, Girard

[KS-TRAIN Course Provider Training](#), Nov. 2, Topeka

[KDHE: Indoor Air Quality Training \(ITV\)](#) Nov. 13, multiple sites

[WMD: IS-700 National Incident Management System](#), Dec. 13, Topeka (Shawnee Co. and Partners)

FREE Web-based Courses Available through KS-TRAIN:

- NEW! [KDEM: IS 700 National Incident Management System, NIMS](#), Kansas Division of Emergency Management. Taping and handouts from previous live trainings. (approx. 3 hrs to complete the course). Post completion the course links you directly to EMI/FEMA to take the online test.

- In this course you will learn to describe the key concepts and principles underlying NIMS; identify the benefits of using ICS as the national incident management model; describe when it is appropriate to institute an area command; describe when it's appropriate to institute a multiagency coordination system; describe the benefits of using a Joint Information System (JIS) for public information; identify the ways in which NIMS affects preparedness; describe how NIMS affects how resources are managed; describe the advantages of common communication and information management systems; explain how NIMS influences technology and technology systems. Describe the purpose of the NIMS Integration Center.
- NEW! [Medical Preparedness and Disaster Planning](#), Sedgwick Co. MMRS
- This video seminar will address the critical role of medical, public health, emergency response, and terrorism preparedness in Kansas communities as "front-line responders" in detecting water-related disease resulting from intentional contamination of water with biologic, chemical or radiologic agents. The seminar will also address the following: (1) the problem of water terrorism and probability of a real threat in the US; (2) the specific challenges of recognizing, diagnosing, and managing water-related disease resulting from water terrorism; and (3) the special challenges of coordinating pre-incident strategies and post-event actions when preparing for water contamination events.
- NEW! [Measuring Health Disparities](#), Michigan Training Center, CNE's available
Measuring Health Disparities is a self-paced, interactive computer-based course which focuses on some basic issues for public health practice -- how to understand, define and measure health disparity. This course examines the language of health disparities; it also shows how to calculate different measures of health disparity. The purpose of this course is to provide a tool that is useful to daily activities in the practice of public health. The content is designed to be accessible to a broad audience of practitioners across all sectors of the public health workforce who are concerned about the issue of health disparity.

REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH MEETINGS

Central Region: Meetings are held at the Reno County Health Department, 209 W Second, Hutchinson, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Please contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639 if you have any questions. Dates are:

Nov. 21 Feb. 28, 2007 May 23, 2007 Aug. 22, 2007 Nov. 21, 2007

North Central Region: Please contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639 for meeting locations. Dates are:

Oct. 24 Dec. 19 Mar. 27, 2007 June 26, 2007 Sept. 25, 2007

Northeast Region: Meetings are held at the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 SW Jackson, Flint Hills Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Topeka, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Please contact Anita Hodge at 785-368-8110 if you have any questions. Dates are:

Dec. 14 Mar. 8, 2007 June 14, 2007 Sept. 13, 2007 Dec. 13, 2007

Northwest Region: Meetings are held 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the NW Educational Service Center, Oakley. Contact Georgette Schoenfeld, RN, Logan County Health Department, for a lunch reservation at 785-672-4502. Please contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639 if you have any questions. Dates are:

Oct. 12 Dec. 7 Mar. 8, 2007 June 14, 2007 Sept. 13, 2007 Dec. 13, 2007

South Central Coalition: Meetings are held 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Ambulance Barn, Pratt. Contact Mitzi Hesser at 620-723-2136 if you have any questions. Date is:

Nov. 3

Southeast Region: Meetings are held 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Southeast District Office, 1500 W Seventh, Meadowlark Room, Chanute. Please contact Jon Anderson at 620-431-2390 if you have any questions. Date is:

Nov. 9

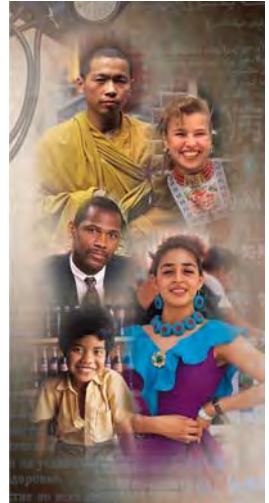
Southwest Region: Meetings are held 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Finney County Administration Building, 311 N Ninth, Garden City. Please contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639 if you have any questions. Dates are:

Nov. 17 Feb. 16, 2007 May 18, 2007 Aug. 17, 2007 Nov. 16, 2007



BRIDGING THE GAP - MEDICAL INTERPRETER TRAINING

KDHE's, Office of Local and Rural Health, is proud to announce its sixth year of sponsoring "Bridging the Gap" – Medical Interpreter Training. Medical interpreter training is 40 hours of intensive, interactive learning for bilingual participants. The projected outcomes are to train qualified bilingual individuals in medical/social service interpreting and to provide educational training to medical and social service providers on their legal obligations to provide language assistance to limited or non-English speaking clients. Jewish Vocational Service of Kansas City provides the medical interpreter training. The training sessions and contact information for registration are listed below:



Central Kansas

Newman Regional Health
Nov. 6 – 10 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Flint Hills Classroom (ground floor)
1201 West 12th, Emporia

Northeast Kansas

Lawrence Memorial Hospital
Dec. 13-15 (Conference "A") & 18-19 (Auditorium) 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
325 Maine, Lawrence

South Central Kansas

University of Kansas School of Medicine - Wichita
Apr. 16 - 20, 2007 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
1010 N Kansas (Meadowlark Room 1305), Wichita

Southwest Kansas

Area SRS Building
June 4 - 8, 2007 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
1710 Palace Drive, Garden City

For more information or registration please contact Cathy Anderson at Jewish Vocational Service (JVS), 1608 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO 64108 or call 816-471-2808 ext. 124 or email Cathy at canders@jvskc.org. You may also contact Brandi Miller at JVS at 816-471-2808 or email bmiller@jvskc.org.

BILLING WORKSHOPS

NE Billing Group meets at the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 SW Jackson, Flint Hills Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Topeka, 9 a.m. - noon. For more information, contact Anita Hodge at 785-368-8110. Upcoming dates are:

Nov. 2	Feb. 1, 2007	May 3, 2007	Aug. 2, 2007	Nov. 1, 2007
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Billing Biddies meets 9 a.m. – noon. For more information, contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639.

Upcoming dates:

Dec. 6	Mar. 7, 2007	June 6, 2007	Sept. 5, 2007	Dec. 5, 2007
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Billers Anonymous meets 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. For more information, contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639.

Upcoming dates:

Nov. 8	Feb. 14, 2007	May 9, 2007	Aug. 8, 2007	Nov. 14, 2007
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Mission Impossible Group meets 9 a.m. – noon, Reno County Health Department, Hutchinson. For more information, contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639. Upcoming dates:

Nov. 21	Feb. 22, 2007	May 24, 2007	Aug. 23, 2007	Nov. 29, 2007
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KUG's meets from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Satanta District Hospital's education room (in basement). For more information, contact Michelle Miller 620-675-8191 mmiller@satantahospital.org.

The Oct. 27 our agenda includes Donna Klassen and Deb Layne. Any health department is welcome. The fee for KIPHS training (\$600.00) will be divided by the number of participants.

Billers-R-Us meets at the district office in Chanute, Meadowlark Room, 9 a.m. - noon. For more information, contact Jon Anderson at 920-431-2390. Upcoming date is: Oct. 10



GENERAL WORKSHOPS

The Kansas State Board of Nursing lists continuing education of interest to the public health workforce: www.ksbn.org/cne/cnemain.htm

Kansas Division of Emergency Management:
www.accesskansas.org/kdem/training



October 2006	
10/19/06 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.	Cities Readiness Initiative More information will be available at a later date.
10/25/06 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.	The National Terrorism Preparedness Institute presents: "Communications, News, Equipment & Training" Save the date. For more information on this free program, contact Ed Kronholm at 877-820-0305, or email dlnets@aol.com .
November 2006	
11/02/06 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.	Mass Antibiotic Dispensing VII: (Subtitle TBD) More information will be available at a later date.



KAN Be Healthy RN orientation and training: www.washburn.edu/ce/kbh/training



Public Health Training Network Satellite Downlinks/Webcasts

To view a complete list of satellite downlinks and Webcasts go to the PHTN Web site at www.phppo.cdc.gov/phtn/default.asp Call Linda Frazier, Distance Learning Coordinator, at 785-296-3641 for assistance.

Pandemic Flu Web Site

The official U.S. government Web site for information on pandemic flu and avian influenza: www.pandemicflu.gov/

Public Health Emergency Training:

The University of Minnesota's "Public Health Emergency Training," is a series of awareness-level online modules covering various topics related to emergency preparedness, including:

- Disease Surveillance and Investigation
- Contact Investigation
- Isolation and Quarantine

Special Populations
 Disaster Mental Health
 Personal Protective Equipment (coming soon)
 Decontamination (coming soon)
 See the link to this course under "announcements" on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>

Terrorism and Other Public Health Emergencies: A Reference Guide for the Media: Presented by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Sept. 2005 www.hhs.gov/emergency/mediaguide/PDF/

Area Health Education Centers:



Look for AHEC's Web page at <http://kuahec.kumc.edu> or trainings at www.kdhe.state.ks.us under the "Additional PH Training Calendar"

NW Kansas – Register or call 785-628-6128

SW Kansas – Register or call 620-275-0259

SE Kansas – Register or call 620-235-4040

To Order Tapes/CDs:

Public Health Foundation Online Bookstore: <http://bookstore.phf.org/cat20.htm>

CDC BT programs: www.bt.cdc.gov/training/index.asp

Disaster Site Worker Outreach Training Program, OSHA:

www.osha.gov/fso/ote/training/disaster/disaster.html

Risk Communication Courses:

www.jhsph.edu/preparedness/training/online/riskcomm.html or in Spanish

www.cepis.ops-oms.org/tutorial6/index.html

Nursing Education

Ft. Hays Nursing: www.fhsu.edu/nursing

KU Nursing: KU has an online RN to BSN completion program:

http://www2.kumc.edu/son/vclassroom/rn_to_bsn.htm

Wichita State University: online RN to BSN: http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=chp_nurs&p=/rntobsnhomepage/

Washburn PHN Certification Program: www.washburn.edu/sonu or e-mail Dr. Janice Dunwell at: zzdnwl@washburn.edu

ANA's Web site: www.RNCE.org

Other Continuing Education Online

The WALD CENTER: www.waldcenter.org

The Public Health Training Network: www.phppo.cdc.gov/phtn/default.asp

KDHE/KALHD Training Calendars: <http://phtc.calendarhost.com/cgi-bin/calweb/calweb.cgi>

Training Finder: Comprehensive database of distance learning course listings:

www.train.org/DesktopShell.aspx

The MMWR Continuing Education Program: www.cdc.gov/mmwr

MPH Kansas: <http://mph.kumc.edu>

National Library of Medicine: www.nlm.nih.gov

CDC BT Training: www.bt.cdc.gov/training/index.asp

The Illinois Public Health Preparedness Center: www.uic.edu/sph/prepare

Heartland Center for Public Health Preparedness: www.heartlandcenters.slu.edu/hc_preparedness.htm

Centers for Public Health Preparedness: www.phppo.cdc.gov/owpp/CPHPLocations.asp

Public Health Training Centers: <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/publichealth/phtc.htm>

Other Public Health Workforce Development Centers: www.phppo.cdc.gov/owpp/resources.asp

Public Health Workforce Competencies

Bioterrorism and Emergency Readiness Competencies for all Public Health Workers:
www.nursing.hs.columbia.edu/institutes-centers/chphsr/btcomps.pdf

Competencies Feedback Project by the Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice: www.trainingfinder.org/competencies/index.htm

**LOCAL HEALTH SECTION
OFFICE OF LOCAL & RURAL HEALTH**

<p style="text-align: center;">Shirley Orr Director, Local Health 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340 Topeka, KS 66612-1365 Office phone – 785-296-7100 Cell phone –316-250-6940 Fax number 785-296-1231 E-mail address – sorr@kdhe.state.ks.us</p>	
<p>Jon Anderson PH Nurse Specialist 1500 W. 7th Chanute, KS 66720-9701 Office phone – 620-431-2390 Cell phone 785-231-9828 Fax number – 620-431-1211 E-mail address – janderso@kdhe.state.ks.us</p>	<p>Linda Frazier PH Workforce Development Coordinator/DLC 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340 Topeka, KS 66612-1365 Office phone – 785-296-3641 Cell phone – 785-231-4504 Fax number – 785-296-1231 E-mail address – lfrazier@kdhe.state.ks.us</p>
<p>Anita Hodge PH Nurse Specialist/Refugee Health Coordinator 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340 Topeka, KS 66612-1365 Office phone – 785-368-8110 Cell phone – 785-231-4357 Fax number - 785-296-1231 E-mail address – ahodge@kdhe.state.ks.us</p>	<p>Debbie Nickels Kansas TRAIN Administrator 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340 Topeka, KS 66612-1365 Office phone – 785-291-3457 Cell phone – 785-231-4503 Fax number – 785-296-1231 E-mail address – dnickels@kdhe.state.ks.us</p>
<p>Jerry Tenbrink Training Coordinator/PH Preparedness 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340 Topeka, KS 66612-1365 Office phone – 785-291-3241 Cell Phone – 785-231-4502 Fax number – 785-296-1231 E-mail address – jtenbrink@kdhe.state.ks.us</p>	<p>Debbie Whitmer PH Nurse Specialist 2501-D Market Place Salina, KS 67401-7699 Office phone –785-827-9639 Cell phone – 785-452-5986 Fax number – 785-827-1544 Email address – dwhitmer@kdhe.state.ks.us</p>